REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 7 and 10 are amended. Support for the foregoing amendments can be found throughout the written description, drawings and claims, as originally filed.

Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks and the references cited therein. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

Amend to the Specification

According to the figure 4 in the present invention, the thermistor R_{th} has a positive temperature coefficient, proportional to the temperature. Therefore, the applicant amends the paragraph [0014] on page 5 and the paragraph [0016] on page 6 to be consistent with figure 4. Support for the foregoing amendments can be found throughout the drawing 4.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Brocklin et al. (US 6,011,371). Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 are not anticipated by the Van Brocklin reference because the fan controller described therein does not include *each and every element* set forth in claims 1, 2, 6 and 7.

> "For a prior art reference to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, every element of the claimed invention must be identically shown in a single reference." *Diversitech Corp. v. Century Steps, Inc.*, 850 F.ed 675, 677, 7 USPQ 2d 1315, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

The amended Claims 1 and 6 recite that the reference voltage output circuit 311 is connected to a power supply V_{cc} to output a corresponding reference voltage signal from an output end A. The reference voltage output circuit 311 includes a first resistor R_1, a thermistor Rth and a second resistor R_2. The power supply V_{cc} is coupled to the output end A through the first resistor. The output end A is grounded either through the first resistor R_1 and the thermistor R_{th} connected to the first resistor in series or through the second resistor R_2. *See figure 4*, the path from the power supply V_{cc} to the output end A does not include the thermistor R_{th}. Moreover, in the present invention, the driving voltage V_D is proportional to the reference voltage signal V_{ref}. When the ambient temperature increases, the reference voltage signal V_{ref} has to be increased to generate a larger drive voltage to increase the rotation of the fan to lower the temperature. Therefore, the resistance of the thermistor R_{th} is proportional to the temperature.

However, according to Van Brocklin reference, one end of the thermistor 46 is connected to a voltage source Vcc and the other end of the thermistor 46 is connected to a resistor 66. The resistor 66 is grounded through the resistor 70. *See figure 2*, the path from the power supply Vcc to the output end, the noninverting input of the amplifier 62, includes the thermistor 46. When the ambient temperature increases, the voltage signal in the output end, the noninverting input of the amplifier 62, has to be increased to generate a larger output signal 60 to drive the fan 16. Therefore, the resistance of the thermistor 46 has to be decreased. That is that the relation between the resistance of the thermistor 46 and the temperature is inverse.

In the present invention, the resistance of the thermistor R_{th} is proportional to the temperature in the claimed invention. However, in Van Brocklin, the resistance of the thermistor 46 and the temperature have an inverse relationship.

Accordingly, Van Brocklin does not teach every element of the claimed invention. Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 are allowable over the prior art of record and respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1 and 6 be reconsidered and withdrawn. In addition, since claims 2~5, 7~10 depend from claims 1 and 6, respectively, the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of these claims should be withdrawn as well.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3, 5, 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Brocklin et al. (US 6,011,371) in view of Dob et al. (US US 4,734,012). In addition, claim 4 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van Brocklin et al. (US 6,011,371) in view of Ohi (US US 5,043,642). Claims 3~5 and 8~10 respectively depend from the claim 1 and 6, respectively, and add further limitations thereto.

As stated above, claims 1 and 6 are different from and not anticipated by what Van Brocklin discloses. Moreover, neither Dob nor the Ohi discloses the features as in claims 1 and 6. That is, these cited references, even when combined as suggested by the Examiner, do not teach the feature of claims 3~5 and 8~10.

Therefore, the novel features of claims 3~5 and 8~10 produce unexpected results and hence these claims are unobvious and patentable over these references. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claims 3~5 and 8~10 are allowable over the prior art of record and respectfully requests that the 35

U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 3~5 and 8~10 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 6 are patentable over the cited references and in condition for allowance. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that dependent claims 3~5 and 8~10 which depend from claims 1 and 6, respectively, are likewise patentable and in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly responded to and overcome. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections and allow all the claims in the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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